

**METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DELEGATION OF
SECURITY PROCEDURES TO A VISITED DOMAIN**

This application claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/269956 filed on Feb 21, 2001.

BACKGROUND

Field of the Invention

[0001] This invention relates to roaming mobile nodes in a visited domain, and more specifically to delegating security procedures, such as authentication and key distribution, to the visited domain.

Discussion of the Related Art

[0002] Mobile devices such as cellular phones, Personal Digital Assistants (PDA), laptop computers, etc. are abundant in today's society. A large number of people carry mobile phones daily as they travel from home to work and to other places during their day. In most cases, the mobile device has a subscription with a home domain. This home domain keeps information about the user such as the long term key for security procedures but also information regarding the services the user has subscribed and is therefore authorized to have access to, etc.

[0003] When a mobile device/node roams to a foreign domain (i.e., visited domain), the user of the mobile node needs to be authorized by the foreign domain to gain access to local resources of the visited domain. The authorization generally consists of the user offering his/her credentials to a local agent (e.g., a local Authentication Authorization and Accounting (AAA) client) in order to verify that the user is authorized (e.g., by roaming agreement between the home domain and visited domain (e.g., Internet Service Providers (ISPs))) and to authenticate the user.